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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/975,564	10/11/2001	Paul G. Allen	10003.001100 (digeo 129)	7500

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EXAMINER

WILSON, JACQUELINE B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2004

17

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/975,564

Applicant(s)

ALLEN ET AL.

Examiner

Jacqueline Wilson

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-19 and 21-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-19 and 21-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rye et al. (US 6,744,463).

Regarding Claim 1, Rye et al teaches a system for switching between a plurality of video cameras (12a-12d) without a multiplexing device such that a video signal from only one of the plurality of video cameras is output at any given time (see abstract), the system comprising a camera controller (38), a plurality of physically separate addressable power switches (col.3, lines 34-38), wherein each addressable power switch is coupled to and controls power applied to a corresponding video camera, wherein each addressable power switches comprises a wireless receiver (24) for receiving a control signal to either supply or switch off power to the corresponding video camera (col. 5, lines 3+), an output device (34), and a switch controller (40) controlled by the camera controller for addressing the plurality of addressable power switches, wherein the switch controller comprises a wireless transmitter (col. 3, lines 62+) for

Art Unit: 2612

transmitting the control signals to the addressable power switches such that power is applied to only a single selected video camera (col. 3, lines 62- col. 4, line 20).

Regarding Claim 2, Rye et al teaches wherein at least one addressable power switch is integrated with a corresponding video camera (18a is integrated in the camera).

Regarding Claim 4, Rye teaches the wireless transmitter is configured to transmit radio frequency signals to the wireless receivers, and wherein the wireless receiver are configured to receive radio frequency signals from the wireless transmitter (col. 3, lines 64-67).

Regarding Claim 5, Rye et al teaches the switch controller is integrated into the camera controller (element 40 is integrated with the camera controller 38).

Regarding Claim 10, Rye et al teaches the plurality of video cameras comprises wireless transmitters (14a-14d; col. 3, lines 24+) for sending video signals to the output device, and wherein the output device comprises a wireless receiver (30) for receiving video signals from the plurality of video cameras (see fig. 1; col. 3, lines 42-50).

Claim 11 is analyzed and discussed with respect to Claim 1 with the further limitation of a memory configured with a camera control process. Rye et al teaches the camera controller comprises a memory (col. 4, lines 21+), which inherently includes a communication bus for transmitting command codes to the switch controller for the purpose supplying addressing the specific camera for operation.

Claim 14 is analyzed and discussed with respect to Claim 1. (see rejection of Claim 1 above.)

Regarding Claim 15, Rye et al teaches the switch controller comprises a decoder for decoding the command codes to generate the control signals (col. 3, lines 62+ and col. 4, lines 21+)

3. Claims 6, 7 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rye et al (US 6,744,463) in view of Ogasawara (US 6,543,052).

Regarding Claim 6, Rye et al fails to teach the camera controller is integrated into customer premises equipment that is communicatively coupled to a cable network. However, Ogasawara'052 teaches a set-top box (STB) which is coupled to cable providers, Internet Service Provider (ISP), to name a few (col. 3, lines 52+), and is also capable of controlling various peripheral devices such as a camera printer, etc. (see fig. 1). Ogasawara'052 teaches that by controlling the peripheral devices using a centralized control through the STB helps facilitate their access and management (col. 4, lines 1-3). This would be advantageous in Monroe'311 for controlling the plurality cameras by using an STB such that all devices may be controlled along with a variety of other devices and providers. The STB also gives the system versatility by including cable connections as well as Internet service for transmitting and receiving video images from remote locations. Therefore, it would have been obvious to integrate the controller of Rye et al into a customer premises equipment (such as a STB) that is communicatively coupled to a cable network for producing a multifaceted device capable of transmitting and receiving information.

Claim 7 is analyzed and discussed with respect to Claim 6. (See rejection of Claim 6 above.)

Claims 16 and 17 are analyzed and discussed with respect to Claim 6. (See rejection of Claim 6 above.)

Claim 18 is analyzed and discussed with respect to Claim 6. (See rejection of Claim 6 above.)

4. Claims 8, 9, 12-13, 15, and 19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rye et al, Ogasawara'052, in view of Bellman, Jr. et al. (4,831,438).

Regarding Claims 8 and 9, Rye et al fails to teach an authentication process limits commands accepted to only authorized commands or an encryption process provides security to video signals transmitted from the camera controller to a remote access controller. However, Bellman, Jr teaches that it is notoriously well known in the art to have a surveillance system that includes an authentication process (col. 4, lines 39+) and an encryption process (fig. 1, 470). This prevents unauthorized activation of the system or interception of the surveillance information. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Rye et al with Bellman, Jr for providing secure access to the surveillance system by using authentication and encryption processes.

Claims 12 and 13 are analyzed and discussed with respect to Claims 8 and 9. Although, Bellman, Jr fails to specifically teach a memory is configured with the authentication process and encryption process, one having ordinary skill would recognize that it would be essential to store these processes in a storage area for storing program codes needed to activate each process for securing access in surveillance systems. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having

Art Unit: 2612

ordinary skill in the art to have the memory for storing an authentication and encryption processes.

Claim 19 is analyzed and discussed with respect to Claims 11-13. (Claim 19 is a method of Claims 11-13. See rejection of Claims 11-13 above.)

Claim 21 is analyzed and discussed with respect to Claims 3 and 4. (See rejection of Claims 3 and 4 above.)

Regarding Claim 22, Rye teaches the plurality of cameras are placed about a premises (such as a public building or locations in or outside of a residence; col. 1, lines 11-31) and wherein the command is received from a remote system (38) within the premises of the customer (location within the home).

Regarding Claim 23, Rye et al teaches the plurality of cameras are placed about a premises of a customer (such as a public building or locations in or outside of a residence; col. 1, lines 11-31), and the command is received from a remote system outside the premises of the customer (such as a security station).

Claim 24 is analyzed and discussed with respect to Claim 19. (See rejection of Claim 19 above.)

Conclusion

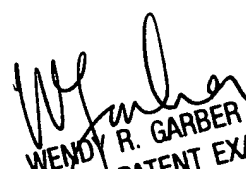
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacqueline Wilson whose telephone number is (703) 308-5080. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm (alternate Fridays off).

Art Unit: 2612

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on (703) 305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JBW
06/24/04


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